

The Historic Cambridge Collaborative  
presents

## CAMBRIDGE DISCOVERY WALKS



Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2003

EXPLORE THE CITY!

FREE! RAIN OR SHINE!



Tours begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue throughout the day.

More tour questions?  
Call the Commission at 617.349.4683

**HISTORIC CAMBRIDGE COLLABORATIVE**  
Cambridge Historical Commission  
Cambridge Historical Society  
Cambridge African American Heritage  
Trail Committee  
Cambridge Office for Tourism  
Longfellow National Historic Site  
Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery

Founded in 1998, the Collaborative is an informal group of non-profit institutions presenting public programs that explore and celebrate Cambridge history.

**Walks are listed by starting times. The number of each tour is keyed to the map on the last page of the document.**

**1) 9:00–10:00 a.m.**

*The Tempest Within: Washington in Cambridge*

“My situation is inexpressibly distressing . . . .” wrote George Washington to John Hancock, President of the Second Continental Congress, from the Vassall Headquarters at Cambridge, on September 21, 1775. Washington’s emotional struggle with the pressure of creating a new country will be related in his own words as found in letters and other sources.

**Guide:** Paul Blandford, National Park Service

**Meet on** the front lawn of the Longfellow House, 105 Brattle Street

**More information:** 617.876.4491

**2) 9:00–10:30 a.m.**

*Memorable Cantabrigians: Mount Auburn and Cambridge Cemeteries*

Tour these scenic neighboring cemeteries and remember the remarkable lives of those who called Cambridge home: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Oliver Wendell Holmes, and James Russell Lowell at Mount Auburn, and Henry Van Brunt, William Dean Howells, and the James family at Cambridge Cemetery overlooking the Charles River.

**Guide:** Janet Heywood, Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery

**Meet at** Mount Auburn Cemetery, 580 Mount Auburn Street

**More information:** friends@mountauburn.org

**3) 9:00–10:30 a.m. Also offered at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., and 4 p.m.**

*The First Baptist Church: Tested by Fire & Time*

Experience the rich history of the First Baptist Church: 1) Establishing the Church: the importance of its location and the impact of fire; 2) Church serving the community and in the community: City Hospital, Cemetery, the use of bells, the underground railroad, and notable people (Levi Farwell, Martin Luther King, Fanny Crosby, and others); and 3) Church mission: plantings, chapel schools, and missionaries here and abroad.

**Guides:** Reverend Kirk Higbee-Barzola and church members

**Meet at** First Baptist Church, 5 Magazine Street

**More information:** 617.354.3062

**4) 10:00–11:00 a.m.**

*Famous & Forgotten: Public Art in Porter Square*

Professor Gowan shares behind-the-scenes stories about public art in a variety of locations in and around Porter Square: installations inside and outside the Porter Square T-station; the Davenport Street Murals behind Star Market; a mural and stained glass at the North Cambridge Senior Center; and art and sculpture installations at the Fitzgerald School and Gately Youth Center. Tour participants will also visit the sculptures at Rindge Field (dedicated by former Speaker of the House, Tip O'Neill) that commemorate both the work and the workers at the local brickyards and highlight family names associated with North Cambridge. All the projects on this tour were commissioned with 1% for Art construction funds and private funds administered by the Cambridge Arts Council.

**Guide:** Al Gowan, Professor Emeritus, Mass. College of Art and first administrator of the Cambridge Arts Council

**Meet at** Porter Square T station, ground level

**More information:** 617.864.3443 or [agowan@attbi.com](mailto:agowan@attbi.com)

**5) 10:00–11:00 a.m.**

*Side by Side: A Cambridgeport Ramble*

Victorian Cambridgeport embraced two identities. Its location defined it as a commercial suburb of Boston. But to residents, it was a proud community. In its double houses lived established Yankees, newcomers, skilled workers, and independent thinkers. Side by side, they built a neighborhood. Come hear their stories.

**Guide:** Dee Morris, social historian

**Meet at** Margaret Fuller House, 71 Cherry Street

**More information:** 781.391.1696

**6) 10:00 a.m.-Noon**

*Telling the Trees from the Forest: Tree Identification at Fresh Pond*

Do all trees look alike to you? You don't need to journey far from home to learn how to use leaves, branches, and bark to see the differences between trees and learn their names. Participants will learn to use *Tree Finder: A Manual for the Identification of Trees by their Leaves* by M. T. Watts and will be able to identify at least three types of trees in future encounters.

Program activities are adult-focused. Children are welcome in the company of an adult who will assist in their participation. Copies of *Tree Finder* will be available for use during the program and also for purchase at \$4.00.

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED by June 28th!**

**Guide:** Jean Rogers, Chief Ranger, Office of Watershed Management, Cambridge Water Department

**Meet at** Neville Place parking lot, 650 Concord Avenue

**For reservations or more information:** 617.349.4793 or [jrogers@cambridgema.gov](mailto:jrogers@cambridgema.gov)

**7) 10:30-Noon**

*Revolution & Revival: The Building of Brattle Street*

The tour will focus on the wide range of architectural styles seen along Brattle Street. Included is an overview of the Revolutionary history of "Tory Row" and a brief tour of the interior of the ca. 1685 Hooper-Lee-Nichols House.

**Guide:** Sally Hild, Cambridge Historical Society

**Meet at** the Hooper-Lee-Nichols House, 159 Brattle Street

**More information:** 617.547.4252 or camhistory@aol.com

**8) Noon-1:00 p.m.**

*Essayist, Educator, Universalist: Judith Sargent Murray in 18<sup>th</sup>-century Cambridge*

When the essayist and women's rights advocate Judith Sargent Murray (1751-1820) moved to Boston from Gloucester in 1794, she often traveled to Cambridge to escape the oppressive summer heat of the city in favor of the cool waters of Fresh Pond and the luxury of the Fresh Pond Hotel. She also oversaw the education of four nephews and two sons of family friends who attended Harvard College in the early 1800s. She arranged for tutors and accommodations, dined at Wadsworth House with presidents Webber and Kirkland to discuss the progress of her charges, and contended with the expulsion and restoration of one "wayward" nephew. In this walking tour of sites related to Judith Sargent Murray, Bonnie Hurd Smith will incorporate excerpts from Murray's unpublished letters, information about her life and work, and historic photographs illustrating the people and places of her time in Cambridge.

**Guide:** Bonnie Hurd Smith, local historian

**Meet at** Massachusetts Hall, Harvard Yard, inside Johnston Gate opposite First Church

**More information:** [www.hurdsmith.com/judith](http://www.hurdsmith.com/judith)

**9) Noon-1:30 p.m.**

*Tip O'Neill's North Cambridge*

Explore the history and architecture of this North Cambridge neighborhood, from the first day of the American Revolution through the 20<sup>th</sup>-century. The tour will discuss the neighborhood's agricultural and early industrial origins and its development as a streetcar suburb. Massachusetts Avenue and adjacent side streets will be featured, including several sites associated with the late Speaker of the House of Representatives.

**Guide:** Charlie Bahne, Cambridge historian

**Meet at** St. James's Church, corner Mass. Ave. and Beech Street

**More information:** 617.354.0539

**10) 1:00–2:00 p.m.**

*The Old Cambridge Burying Ground: Scholars, Soldiers & Stones*

The tour will look at the work of early colonial carvers, discuss the stones and the information they tell about important figures in the Cambridge community, and study how the town's public and private educational and governmental institutions functioned in the years just prior to the American Revolution. The tour will be led by Mistress Elizabeth, an 18<sup>th</sup>-century living history character from Charlestown-Beyond-the-Neck, who is the widow of Captain Elias de la Rue and a sometime schoolteacher. Mistress Elizabeth lives in the summer of the year 1773, just six months before the Boston Tea Party and three years before events at Lexington and Concord.

Children under the age of 14 should be answerable to an accompanying adult. No touching or rubbing of stones is permitted in the grounds; photography and drawing are fine! Handouts included.

**Guide:** Mistress Elizabeth (aka Donna La Rue)

**Meet at** the Old Burying Ground at the side gate near the front entrance to Christ Church, Zero Garden Street

**More information:** 781.306.0724 or [ihsdlrue@bu.edu](mailto:ihsdlrue@bu.edu)

**11) 1:00–2:00 p.m.**

*A History of West Cambridge near Fresh Pond*

In the early years of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, the area now known as West Cambridge was part of the farming community of Watertown. As West Cambridge from 1754, it has an interesting and varied history of farms and country estates, market greenhouses, a cemetery, and suburban housing development.

**Guide:** Karen Falb, landscape historian

**Meet at** 245 Brattle Street

**More information:** 617.864.4291

**12) 1:30–2:30 p.m.**

*The Women of Central Square*

The tour will focus on women's contributions to Cambridge. Learn about the lives and struggles of women politicians and feminists, visit the country's oldest Women's Center, and listen to the stories of Charlotte Hawkins Brown, Maria Baldwin, and other important women and women's institutions.

**Guide:** Mary Leno, Cambridge Women's Commission

**Meet on** the sidewalk in front of City Hall

**More information:** 617.349.4697

**13) 2:00–3:15 p.m.**

*Public Art on the Move in Inman Square*

Professor Gowan will share behind-the-scenes stories about Cambridge's best-known mural, on the side of the Inman Square Fire Station, Engine Company 5, plus history and details about the building itself. The tour will also view the mural on the side of the S & S Diner. Prof. Gowan will lead participants on a walk to the Cambridge Department of Public Works building, where nationally recognized *The Works* graphics has put a human face on the DPW vehicles for over twenty-five years. The public art on this tour was commission with C.E.T.A. funds, 1% for Art construction funds, and private funds administered through the Cambridge Arts Council.

**Guide:** Al Gowan, Professor Emeritus, Mass. College of Art and first administrator of the Cambridge Arts Council

**Meet at** Inman Square Fire Station

**More information:** 617.864.3443 or agowan@attbi.com

**14) 2:00–3:30 p.m.**

*Four Centuries of Stylish Houses*

The area between Brattle Street and Huron Avenue contains the finest collection of high-style domestic architecture in the city. Traversing Brattle, Fayerweather, Reservoir, Highland, and Appleton streets, Karen Davis will discuss the many architectural styles represented and describe their character-defining traits.

**Guide:** Karen Davis, architectural historian

**Meet at** the Hooper-Lee-Nichols House, 159 Brattle Street

**More information:** 617.547.2625 or daviskaren@aol.com

**15) 2:30–3:45 p.m.**

*Harvard Square's Colonial Churches: Agents of Change*

Diversity of religious and political affiliations have been issues in Cambridge since Harvard's first president became a Baptist and was asked to resign. We will visit historic church sites, discuss how issues between Cambridge and Boston clergy foreshadowed and influenced events leading up to the American War for Independence, and discover how lay and clergy alike were schooled to their professions and added to the town's already complex texture.

We will also stop to sing a tune from the Bay Psalm Book at the site where it was published and join in a rousing political song or two at the Blue Anchor Tavern site (there having been varieties of religious experience even then . . .) Handouts included.

This tour will be given in the present time by Donna La Rue, a doctoral candidate in the liturgical arts at Boston University, whose minor is American Colonial Church Art and Architecture.

**Guide:** Donna La Rue, church historian.

**Meet at** Out Of Town News/Cambridge Discovery Kiosk

**More information:** 781.306.0724 or ihsdlrue@bu.edu

**16) 2:30–3:30 p.m.**

*The Literary Spirit: Poets and Scholars in Cambridge*

Stroll through one of Cambridge's most beautiful neighborhoods and meet the spirits of important cultural and literary individuals, including Richard Henry Dana (*Two Years Before the Mast*) and William Dean Howells (*The Rise of Silas Lapham*).

**Guide:** Kit Rawlins, Cambridge Historical Commission

**Meet on** the front lawn of the Longfellow House, 105 Brattle Street

**More information:** 617.349.4685 or [krawlins@cambridgema.gov](mailto:krawlins@cambridgema.gov)

**17) 3:00–4:15 p.m.**

*Art and Architecture of MIT*

The MIT campus hosts the work of several remarkable 20<sup>th</sup>-century architects—and is undergoing an unprecedented building program that adds to the collection. The tour will begin with an overview of MIT's campus, then explore the works of the architects whose creations have shaped—and continue to shape--the campus. Architects include Eero Saarinen, who designed Kresge Auditorium and MIT Chapel; Alvar Aalto, designer of Baker House, which transformed the traditional dormitory into a student living environment; and William Welles Bosworth, whose Beaux Arts design was considered striking in its day. (It is said he "found his inspiration in Thomas Jefferson's University of Virginia, with its Pantheon dome as the central feature." Source: [web.mit.edu](http://web.mit.edu)) The tour will also examine the works of I. M. Pei and Frank Gehry.

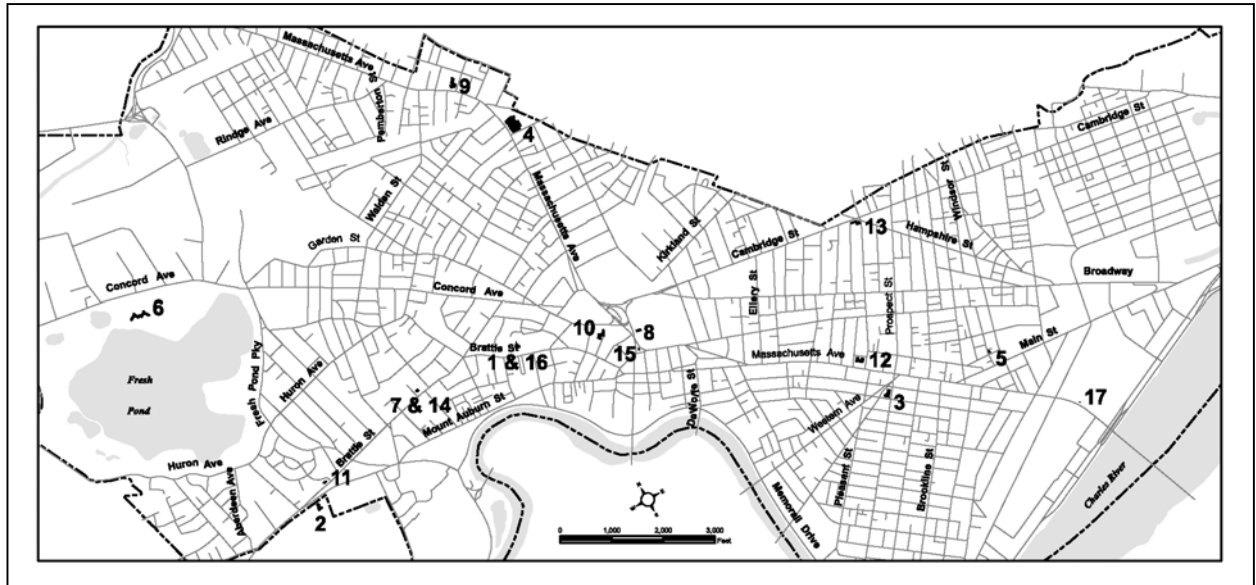
Hosted by a Cambridge resident and alumna, the tour will touch on MIT history, sculpture, and student life in the 1980's.

**Guide:** Jennifer Hance, local historian and MIT alum

**Meet on** steps in front of 77 Mass. Ave.

**More information:** [jhance@csc.com](mailto:jhance@csc.com)





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